



LC

577

.S3

Author

Title

Imprint



*Library of Congress*

HISTORICAL SKETCHES  
OF  
Institutions of Learning

WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE  
KENTUCKY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

OF THE  
Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

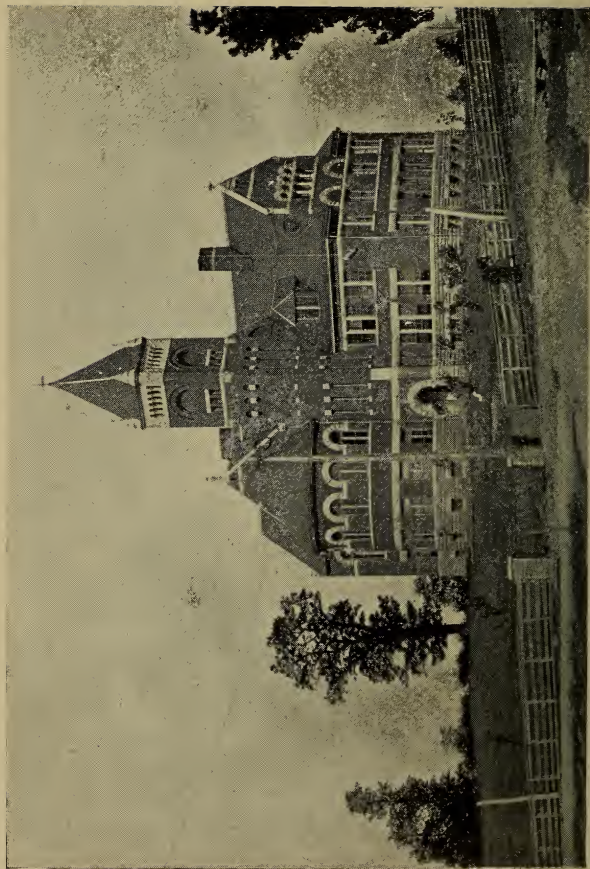
BY  
REV. DR. GEO. S. SAVAGE.

---

WINCHESTER, KENTUCKY,  
AUGUST, 1899.







KENTUCKY WESLEYAN COLLEGE.

HISTORICAL SKETCHES

OF

# Institutions of Learning

WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE

KENTUCKY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

OF THE

Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

BY

REV. DR. GEO. S. SAVAGE.

---

WINCHESTER, KENTUCKY,  
AUGUST, 1899.

P.  
Rev. R. W. Springer

LC 577  
S3

53176





## INTRODUCTION.

---

AT the Educational Convention of Ministers and Laymen in Louisville, Kentucky, in June, 1899, it was suggested to the writer to prepare a historical sketch of Methodist institutions of learning in Kentucky. Upon inquiry it is found that Rev. Gross Alexander, D. D., of Vanderbilt University, and Rev. R. W. Browder, of the Louisville Conference, have prepared and published such sketches of institutions within the bounds of the Louisville Conference.

Following this precedent, we shall attempt to make record only of such institutions of learning within the bounds of the Kentucky Conference.

We are indebted to Samuel Duncan, of Nicholasville, Ky., for the use of a work, "Early Schools of Methodism," by A. W. Cummings, D. D., LL. D., Wellsville, N. Y.; and for valuable information, to Rev. James M. Buckley, D. D., editor *Christian Advocate*, New York; to Rev. Thomas Watts, Nicholasville; President A. G. Murphey, of Logan Female College, Russellville; Thomas E. Savage,

Millersburg; to Professor D. W. Battson, of Kentucky Wesleyan College, Winchester, Ky.; and to others.

While great care has been taken to prepare reliable information, minor errors may have crept into the records, and omissions may be detected, arising from studied brevity; yet it is believed that some facts have been preserved that might have been lost to history.

These sketches are submitted to the Kentucky Conference and others, with a desire to elevate and promote the interests of education in the State.

GEORGE S. SAVAGE.

WINCHESTER, KY., August, 1899.

# INDEX.

	PAGE.
AUGUSTA COLLEGE, - - - - -	9
AUGUSTA COLLEGE INSTITUTE, - - - - -	35
ASBURY COLLEGE, - - - - -	37
BETHEL ACADEMY, - - - - -	7
BOURBON FEMALE COLLEGE, - - - - -	40
COVINGTON FEMALE HIGH SCHOOL, - - - - -	21
DODD, JAMES WILLIAM, LL. D., - - - - -	27
DODD, THOMAS J., D. D., - - - - -	28
FEMALE HIGH SCHOOL, MT. STERLING, KY., - - - - -	40
HARRISON FEMALE COLLEGE, - - - - -	40
KENTUCKY WESLEYAN COLLEGE, - - - - -	29
KENTUCKY WESLEYAN ACADEMY, BURNSIDE, - - - - -	39
KENTUCKY WESLEYAN ACADEMY, CAMPTON, - - - - -	38
MILLERSBURG MALE AND FEMALE ACADEMY, - - - - -	21
MILLERSBURG MALE AND FEMALE COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE, - - - - -	22
MILLERSBURG FEMALE COLLEGE, - - - - -	25
SCIENCE HILL ACADEMY, - - - - -	18
SUE BENNETT MEMORIAL SCHOOL, - - - - -	37
TRANSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY, - - - - -	19
UNION COLLEGE, BARBOURVILLE, - - - - -	36



# HISTORICAL SKETCHES.

---

## BETHEL ACADEMY.

THE Legislature of Virginia, in 1780, set apart eight thousand acres of land for the establishment of schools in the then County of Kentucky. The Methodists early took measures to secure a part of this land. With this object in view, Bishop Asbury and his friend Richard Whatcoat—afterwards Bishop Whatcoat—left Southern Virginia early in May, 1790, arrived in Lexington on the 12th of the month, where Bishop Asbury preached, and then proceeded to the residence of Richard Masterson, five miles from Lexington, where he held the first Methodist Conference in Kentucky on the 14th of May, 1790. From this place Bishop Asbury and Rev. Francis Poythress, whom the bishop declared was “much alive with God,” rode to the land of Thomas Lewis, at the bend of the Kentucky River, known as Handy’s Bend, near the present High Bridge, about nine miles from Nicholasville, which was not then laid out. Mr. Lewis offered the bishop one hundred acres of land as a site for Bethel Academy. Bishop Asbury made this entry in his journal: “We fixed upon a place for a school,

and called it Bethel, and obtained in land and money upwards of three hundred pounds towards its establishment."

The principal assistants in establishing Bethel Academy were Rev. Francis Poythress, first presiding elder of the Kentucky District, and John Metcalf—the latter a native of Southampton County, Va., who came to Kentucky in the spring of 1790. In Littell's "Law's of Kentucky," published in 1808, it is recorded that "Bethel Academy was chartered by the Legislature of Kentucky, February 10, 1798, with the following Board of Trustees: Revs. Francis Poythress, John Knobler, Nathaniel Harris, John Metcalf, Barnabas McHenry, James Crutcher, James Hord, and Richard Masterson."

The building was of brick, three stories in height and about ninety feet in length. The school was opened in 1794 by Rev. John Metcalf, who was principal until 1803. In 1799, Rev. Valentine Cook took charge of the Literary Department, with Rev. Francis Poythress assistant. Mr. Cook was a man of fine intellectual attainments, having been educated at Cokesbury, in Abingdon, Md. He remained in Bethel Academy only one year. The Kentucky Conference of 1797 met in Bethel Academy, and in the same place in 1800, in both instances presided over by Bishop Asbury.

In 1803, John Metcalf removed from Bethel Academy to Nicholasville, and, building a log

house there, he opened a school, calling it Bethel Academy, which he conducted until 1820, when a large brick building was erected for a public school, and much of the brick of old Bethel Academy was used in its construction. The building bears the name of Bethel, and is an ornament to the city of Nicholasville. Rev. Thomas M. Watts writes: "It seems to me that this very material, consecrated by the self-martyrdom of Poythress, and baptized by the tears of Asbury, ought to be saved to the Church, but we make so little of history." Rev. Nathaniel Harris continued the Bethel school, on the heights of the Kentucky River, until 1805. The land donated by the State reverted to the State, and the hundred acres given by Mr. Lewis reverted to his estate, the school having ceased to be a Methodist school when Mr. Metcalf removed to Nicholasville.

The old site of Bethel Academy is now owned by Mr. Wm. Handy. Though now a mass of ruins, its historic influence permeates the hundred years since its erection, and has fostered the development of the garden of our Commonwealth. Surely no one, with all the facts before him, will venture to write Bethel Academy in Kentucky a failure.

#### AUGUSTA COLLEGE.

IN 1798 the citizens of Bracken County, Kentucky, secured from the State a grant of six thousand acres of land, to enable them to establish

Bracken Academy, at Augusta, the county-seat, situated on the Ohio River. The trustees wisely retained the land until it greatly increased in value; thus securing a fund amply sufficient for the desired academy. At the session of the Ohio Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, held early in September, 1821, Revs. John Collins and Martin Ruter were appointed commissioners to attend the meeting of the Kentucky Conference, in Lexington, Kentucky, on the 18th of the same month and year, to take steps for uniting the two Conferences in the establishment of a college. The subject having been considered by the Kentucky Conference, Revs. George C. Light and Marcus Lindsey, of that Conference, were appointed to confer with the commissioners from the Ohio Conference. On December 15, 1821, the commissioners of the two Conferences met at Augusta, and after consultations with the trustees of Bracken Academy, they jointly determined upon the establishment of the first Methodist college in the world, at Augusta, Bracken County, Kentucky, under the title of Augusta College.

Rev. John P. Finley, of Ohio, was admitted into the Kentucky Conference in 1822, and appointed to Augusta College. In December, 1822, the institution was chartered by the Legislature of Kentucky as a college, with power to confer degrees, etc. Soon after the charter was obtained, Captain James Armstrong, a layman of the Meth-



odist Church in Augusta, with a few friends, accomplished the erection of a suitable edifice, sufficiently large, on a good-sized campus, of his own; and on the 4th of October following, the building being completed, he generously conveyed the entire property to the trustees of the Augusta College. The building was of brick, three stories in height. On the first floor were a chapel, forty by thirty feet, and two recitation-rooms, thirty by eighteen feet in size. On the second floor were six rooms, and on the third floor seven rooms. Captain Armstrong died in August, 1824, but lived to see the Preparatory Department organized. In compliance with the provisions of the Bracken County Academy Fund, Rev. John P. Finley continued his labors in the college, teaching Latin, Greek, and the English branches, until his death in May, 1825. His remains rest in the rear of the old Methodist church in Augusta.

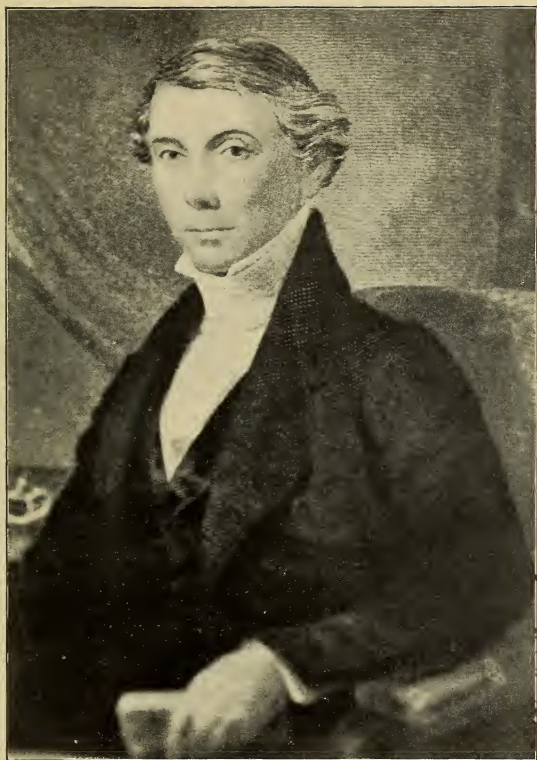
In September, 1825, Rev. Joseph S. Tomlinson, A. B., a graduate of Transylvania University, was appointed Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy. In October, 1825, Rev. John P. Durbin, A. M., was elected to the chair of Latin and Greek, and remained in the institution for six years. This celebrated divine and scholar was born in Bourbon County, Kentucky, in the year 1800. At the age of fourteen years he was apprenticed to a cabinet-maker in Paris, Kentucky. He was converted when eighteen years old, and soon after-

wards licensed to preach, and admitted into the Ohio Conference. He died in New York City, October 17, 1876.

In 1827, Augusta College was fully organized, with Rev. Martin Ruter, A. M., its first president, and Professor of Oriental Languages and Belles-lettres; Rev. Joseph S. Tomlinson, A. B., Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy; Rev. John P. Durbin, A. M., Professor of Ancient Languages and Greek and Roman Antiquities; F. A. M. Davis, M. D., of Augusta, Professor of Chemistry and Botany; and Arnold Truesdale in charge of Academic Department, assisted by Rev. Thomas H. Lynch, a student in the college. The Primary Department was in charge of John Vincent. The president, Rev. Martin Ruter, D. D., was amongst the first, if not the first Methodist in the world bearing the title D. D., which was conferred upon him by Transylvania University. The Board of Trustees were John Armstrong, president, and Johnson Armstrong, treasurer, both of Maysville, Kentucky; Bishop Joshua Soule, D. D., and Revs. O. M. Spencer, John Meek, John Collins, George C. Light, and Enos Woodward.

The course of study was full and complete, embracing all the branches required by the best colleges of that period.

William McKendree Bangs, a son of the author and editor, Rev. Nathan Bangs, of New York, a graduate of Ohio University with the highest



REV. JOHN P. DURBIN, D. D.



honors of the institution, was professor in Augusta College for two years. During this time the Methodists had a camp-meeting on Willow Creek, in Bracken County. A number of the Faculty of the college and others, young Bangs amongst them, were *en route* to the camp-ground, on horse-back. Professor Bangs had never before been astride a horse. A descent of about forty-five degrees, to cross a creek, had to be made. Professor Bangs rode in the lead. In descending this declivity, he elevated his limbs horizontal with the horse's neck, and threw his head quite upon the animal's back. One of the professors, better posted in equestrianism, called out, "Hello, Bangs! what are you doing?" He promptly replied, "My philosophy, gentlemen, teaches me that, in descending such a declivity as this, I must maintain the center of gravity." Poor Bangs! The college boys got hold of this, and during his stay in Augusta, he never ceased to hear something about maintaining the center of gravity.

In 1832, Rev. Dr. Ruter resigned the presidency, and Dr. Tomlinson, being transferred to the chairs of Natural Sciences and Belles-lettres, was made responsible also for the duties of president. Rev. John H. Fielding, A. M., who had been professor and president of Madison College, Pennsylvania, became Professor of Mathematics, which position he retained for three years.

In 1833, Solomon Howard, an alumnus of Au-

gusta College, was made principal of the Preparatory Department.

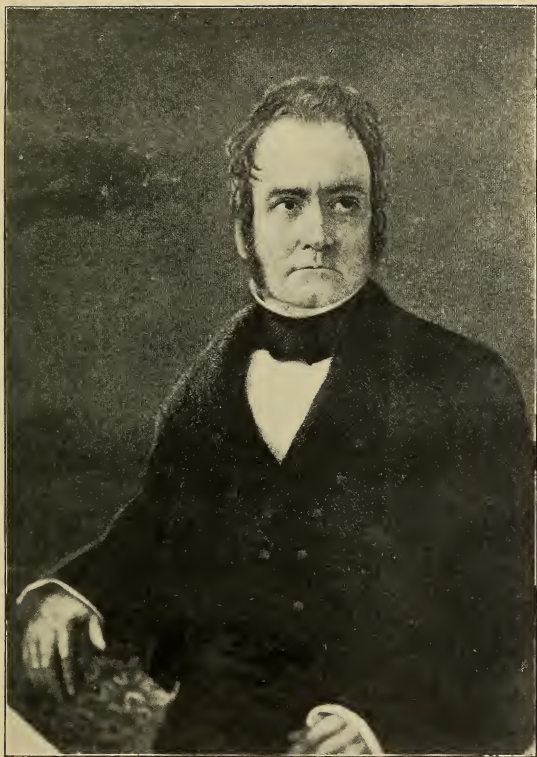
In 1834, Frederick Eckstein became Professor of Modern Languages; W. W. Wallingford, English tutor; Don Raphael Espinoza, teacher of Spanish; and Noah Archbold, teacher in Preparatory Department.

In 1835, Rev. Joseph Trimble, D. D., of the Ohio Conference, succeeded Professor Fielding in the Department of Mathematics.

The Catalogue of 1836 gives the following Faculty: Rev. Joseph S. Tomlinson, D. D., president; Rev. Burr H. McCown, A. M., Rev. Joseph M. Trimble, D. D., Rev. H. B. Bascom, D. D., professors; and Abner Chapman in the Preparatory Department.

A friend has kindly handed me, "By-laws and Course of Instruction of Augusta College, for 1837," in which are found, amongst the Board of Trustees, the names of Rev. Joshua Soule, D. D.; Hon. John McLean, of Ohio; Rev. Oliver M. Spencer, of Cincinnati; Rev. James B. Finley, of Ohio; and Marshall Key, Martin Marshall, Rev. James Savage, and Rev. F. A. Savage, of Kentucky.

At the session of the General Conference in 1840, Transylvania University, at Lexington, Kentucky, was, through Rev. Henry B. Bascom, tendered to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and accepted. This was earnestly opposed by Rev. Joseph Tomlinson, of Augusta College.



REV. HENRY B. BASCOM, D. D., LL. D.  
WAS BORN MAY 27, 1796. DIED SEPTEMBER 8, 1850.





In 1842, Rev. H. B. Bascom withdrew from Augusta College, to accept the presidency of Transylvania University. Professors B. H. McCown, Thomas H. Lynch, and Josiah L. Kemp also withdrew from Augusta College and accepted positions in Transylvania University. The withdrawal of these officers from Augusta College necessitated the reorganization of its Faculty, which for 1842-3 were Rev. Joseph S. Tomlinson, D. D., president; Revs. Edmund W. Schon and Herman M. Johnson, A. M., professors; and James W. King, principal of the Preparatory Department. Rev. E. W. Schon, A. M., declined to serve.

In 1842, E. N. Elliott was elected Professor of Mathematics. Professor Johnson retired from Augusta College in 1844, and was succeeded by Professor Chandler Robbins, A. M., of Wesleyan University.

Influences adverse to this struggling institution, which were engendered in 1842, became so intensified in 1844 and subsequently that the repeal of the charter and the closing of Augusta College transpired in 1849, and the funds of the Bracken County Academy, that had been transferred to the trustees of Augusta College, reverted to that Academy, and funds from the Ohio Conference that had been used for the benefit of Augusta College reverted to that Conference.

A stereotyped record must not be withheld. The income never paid the professors living sal-

aries; and this deficiency was emphasized by the repeal of the charter, rendering the outstanding notes valueless. Sadness over the termination of Augusta College is enhanced by the facts that, besides the college edifice, there were a library of sixteen hundred volumes, two society libraries, extensive philosophical and chemical apparatus, and two large dormitories—the whole property valued at \$50,000.

On the night of January 28, 1852, the principal building was destroyed by fire, after which the trustees of Bracken Academy, aided by the citizens of Augusta, erected on the site a fine building for a graded school.

During the existence of Augusta College one hundred and fifty-three students were graduated. Amongst others, honorary degrees were conferred upon Henry B. Bascom, a name familiar to all Methodism; Rev. Charles Elliott, author of a masterly work on Romanism; Bishop L. L. Hamline, of the Methodist Episcopal Church; John H. Fielding, D. D., author; Rev. John Miley, of Drew Theological Seminary, etc. The degree of D. D. was conferred, worthily, upon Bishops Elijah Hedding and William Capers; also upon Wilbur Fisk, Samuel Lucky, Stephen Olin, and others. The degree of LL. D. was conferred by Augusta College upon Hon. John C. Wright, Hon. John W. Campbell, Thomas Ewing, Hon. Benjamin Watkins Leigh, of Ohio; Hon. John Boyle, of Ken-

tucky; Hon. John Pitman, of Rhode Island; Hon. George Robertson, of Kentucky, etc. Among the non-graduate alumni are many names of distinction in various departments of usefulness. We select a few: General Doniphan, of Missouri; Professor McFarland, of the State University of Ohio; Governor Robert Wickliffe, of Louisiana; Bishop Randolph S. Foster, D. D., LL. D., of the Methodist Episcopal Church; Rev. W. C. Dandy, D. D., and others.

Rev. Edward Cook, D. D., author of "Early Schools of Methodism," says: "Augusta College in Kentucky was the first successful attempt at college organization; this had a brilliant history for a few years." In the language of Rev. Daniel Stevenson, D. D., to whose writings we are greatly indebted for some historical facts: "Methodism and the country at large were greatly blessed and benefited by the establishment and continuance for the fourth of a century of Augusta College." Of this college and its achievements, Rev. Dr. Redford, the historian of "Methodism in Kentucky," in 1841, bears this testimony: "Its Faculty was composed of men of genius, piety, and learning, and in all the learned professions, in almost every Western and Southern State, its alumni may yet be found. It gave to the medical profession, to the bar, and to the pulpit, many of their brightest lights."

With affectionate reminiscences as one of its

non-graduates, we take leave of this historic college, which should have remained a permanent crown of glory to its projectors. May its grand achievements prove to be the aurora of a new era in advanced Methodist education in this old Commonwealth!

The people called Methodists, by their traditions, by their heroes and scholars, must prove themselves the friends and promoters of advanced education in all departments of scholarship. They owe this to the past and the present, and to make the future renowned.

#### SCIENCE HILL ACADEMY.

THE oldest and for many years the best school for girls in the South and West, was founded in Shelbyville, Kentucky, March 25, 1825, by Mrs. Julia A. Tevis. Mrs. Tevis was a born teacher and governess. She had marked success in developing school-girls into true and elegant women. She admirably sustained her superior reputation until her death in April, 1880.

From this institution, for more than half a century, there went forth a great number of educated, accomplished women, into the South and West, to bless thousands of homes and communities.

Over a year previous to Mrs. Tevis's death, Rev. W. T. Poynter, D. D., of the Kentucky Conference, purchased the school property, and assiduously devoted himself to adapting the institution to modern

requirements and advanced ideas of female education, under the title, "*Science Hill English and Classical School for Girls.*"

Dr. Poynter died July 30, 1896, and the responsibilities of a large and thoroughly-organized school devolved upon his widow, Mrs. Clara Martin Poynter, who is proving herself remarkably well adapted to sustain the standard of this model school.

#### TRANSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY.

AS PREVIOUSLY stated, in 1840 Transylvania University, of Lexington, Kentucky, was, through Rev. H. B. Bascom, tendered to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and accepted. The commissioners of the General Conference proposed to elect Rev. H. B. Bascom, D. D., LL. D., president. He declined, but accepted the presidency *pro tem.*, and Burr H. McCown, D. D., was elected to the chair of Languages; W. H. Anderson, D. D., to that of Moral Science; Thomas H. Lynch, ——— Barker ———, of Pennsylvania, professors; and Josiah L. Kemp, Preparatory Department.

Since its beginning, in 1798, Transylvania University had been successively under the control of the Presbyterian, Unitarian, Baptist, and Episcopal Churches, and now, in 1840, of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In the fall of 1842 the university opened with an increase in the number of its students, in the

Literary Department from thirty or forty to several hundred. But the conditions became threatening. The rupture between the Churches of Methodism, North and South, was at hand. Trouble arose in the Faculty. When the business of Transylvania University came up in the General Conference of 1844, at Petersburg, Virginia, the entire Faculty tendered their resignations, which were accepted. The General Conference proceeded to elect a new Faculty, in part: Rev. H. B. Bascom, D. D., LL. D., president; Rev. George F. Pearce, of Georgia, vice-president; and Professor Barker, of Pennsylvania, to the chair of Languages; the other chairs to be filled by the curators. The troubles increased. What though there were elected professors from Georgia, Pennsylvania, and Louisiana? These States had their own colleges, to which they were pledged. Not only this difficulty, but the pecuniary condition was very embarrassing.

The Conference abandoned the institution in 1848, and the Methodists were again without a college in Kentucky.

Upon this change, Professor James B. Dodd, author of a series of mathematical books, who was a Methodist, became president *pro tem.* of Morrison College, of Transylvania University, and conducted a normal school from 1849 to 1856.

In 1866, Transylvania University passed into the hands of the Christian Church.

## COVINGTON FEMALE HIGH SCHOOL.

IN the spring of 1849, Rev. George S. Savage and wife, Cleora B. Savage, opened a Methodist school for girls in the basement of the Baptist Church, on Fourth Street, in Covington, Kentucky. The Methodist Church, South, promised to secure suitable buildings for the school. The school opened with thirteen pupils, and at the close of two and a half years the number was one hundred and thirty-five. No effort having been made to secure the buildings promised, our uncle, Rev. F. A. Savage, of Glasgow, Missouri, formerly of Kentucky, induced us to move to that place, and take charge of the Glasgow Female Academy, where we remained three years, and then returned to Kentucky.

## MILLERSBURG MALE AND FEMALE ACADEMY.

IN the fall of 1852, Rev. John Miller, M. D., of the Kentucky Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was stationed in Millersburg and Paris, alternating between the two places. The support of his family being doubtful, he opened the Millersburg Male and Female Academy, as a Methodist school, in September, with the following teachers: Rev. John Miller, principal; Robert T. Miller, assistant principal; Mrs. Elizabeth F. Foster, principal of the Female Department; and Miss Kalhause and Miss Elizabeth Miller, now

widow of P. Scott, of Lexington, Kentucky, in charge of the Music Department. The academy was a success. It had pupils from Bourbon, Harrison, and Carter Counties, from remote parts of the State, and from West Virginia. This was the first Methodist school in Millersburg. At the expiration of two years, the limit of Dr. Miller's pastoral charge, the academy passed into the hands of Rev. George S. Savage and wife, in the fall of 1854. The school was conducted in the property of Mr. James Batterton, and was now opened under the new title,—

MILLERSBURG MALE AND FEMALE COLLEGIATE  
INSTITUTE. CHARTERED BY THE KEN-  
TUCKY LEGISLATURE IN 1856.

It opened with thirty-five pupils, and was a success. A friend has handed us a Catalogue of the "Male and Female Collegiate Institute of 1857," one year before the transfer of the assets of the institute for the Kentucky Wesleyan College was made. At the close of this scholastic year there were enrolled ninety females and eighty-eight males, a total of one hundred and seventy-eight pupils.

The Board of Instructors were: Rev. George S. Savage, M. D., principal, and teacher of Natural, Moral, and Intellectual Philosophy; Mrs. C. B. Savage, principal of Female Department, and teacher of Belles-lettres, Botany, French, and Ornamental Branches; A. G. Murphey, A. B., teacher



of Languages; William H. Savage, A. B., teacher of Mathematics; Miss Martha M. Williams, teacher of Instrumental and Vocal Music; Miss Penelope B. Savage, principal of Preparatory Department.

After the close of the public examination of the classes, a committee of the leading patrons, and citizens of Millersburg and vicinity, was formed, which, after a strong preamble, proposed and passed the following resolutions:

*"Resolved, 1.* That we, the citizens of Millersburg and vicinity, are highly honored by, and may be justly proud of, an institution of learning in our midst of so high a character.

*"Resolved, 2.* That the examination of the pupils of the Millersburg Male and Female Collegiate Institute has evinced, on the part of the pupils, a clear conception of the principles and a thorough knowledge of all the branches studied, not to be excelled by the pupils of any institution of learning in our land.

*"Resolved, 3.* That the privilege of offering this tribute of respect, so justly due the Board of Instruction, is as gratifying to us as it may be regarded flattering to them.

"WM. KENNEY, M. D., *Chairman.*

"L. MARSTON, "JAMES BATTERTON, SR.,

"WILLIAM NUNN, "HENRY PARKER,

"JOHN A. MILLER, "JAMES MCGUFFIN,

"THOMAS THROCKMORTON, "Committee.

"JAMES STOREY, *President.*

"J. W. SNIVELY, *Secretary.*"

The buildings were inadequate to the increasing demands of the school, and Rev. T. P. C. Shellman, presiding elder of the Covington District, residing in Millersburg, conceived the idea of converting the institute into a district school for the Covington District, and commenced to collect money and secure pledges for this purpose. The sum of fifteen thousand dollars was supposed to be necessary for the proposed new building. Harrison County, from which the institute received generous patronage, proposed to furnish this amount, free of interest for five years, provided the institute be removed to Cynthiana. This sprang the Millersburg patrons, and they promptly secured the amount, and arranged for the laying of the corner-stone of the new building during the session of the Annual Conference, to be held in Millersburg in September, 1858, Bishop H. H. Kavanaugh presiding.

On Saturday of the Conference, in presence of an immense concourse of people, the corner-stone of the new building for the Millersburg Male and Female Collegiate Institute was laid. Addresses were made by Bishop Kavanaugh, Rev. Jefferson Hamilton, of the Alabama Conference; and Hon. Garrett Davis, of Paris, Ky., United States senator. A liberal contribution was secured. On the Monday following, a number of the representative men of the Conference proposed to the trustees of the institute that if they would transfer the as-

sets of the institute to the Conference it would establish and endow a first-class male college. Such a movement had been in the mind of the Conference for several years. The transfer was made with the male department of the institute, and the Conference pledged to raise an endowment of one hundred thousand dollars.

Professor A. G. Murphey, president of Logan Female College, who was so long and intimately connected with the educational work in Millersburg, writes: "But for the push and energy of Dr. George S. Savage, there would have been no Kentucky Wesleyan College, and this I would have publicly stated at the Convention at Louisville, if opportunity had permitted." The writer would add, that his wife is entitled to a large share in such honor.

The female department was continued in the Batterton property by Rev. George S. Savage, who bought and enlarged the buildings, and secured a charter from the Kentucky Legislature for the

#### MILLERSBURG FEMALE COLLEGE,

Chartered by the Legislature of Kentucky in 1860. While lack of space forbids the recording of the the names of all the faithful toilers associated with us during the twelve years in which we labored in Millersburg, we must mention Hon. William H. Savage, A. M.; A. G. Murphey, A. M., both alumni of Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio;

Luman Roberts, A. M., and wife, *née* Penelope B. Savage, now Mrs. M. S. Williams, one of Kentucky's most eminent educators; Professor H. R. Blaisdell, deceased, late principal of the Covington High School; Mrs. Lydia P. Noble, of Painesville, Ohio; and Miss C. E. Bright, now Mrs. Rev. J. D. Walsh—the latter two in charge of the Music Department.

It is simple justice to note that pupils from our schools in Covington and Millersburg went forth, many of them superior men and women, to adorn the professions, the elective positions in State and in educational service, as well as to occupy most creditably the more retired spheres of useful life in many States of our great country. We can but rejoice to have been accounted worthy of such honor.

In 1866, Professor James W. Hamilton succeeded Rev. George S. Savage in charge of Millersburg Female College, succeeded in order by the following presidents of the college:

1869-70, James A. Brown; 1870-72, Wm. H. Savage; 1872-74, William H. Savage and Rev. George T. Gould; 1874-75, William H. Savage, George T. Gould, and Rev. H. W. Abbett; 1875-77, Rev. George T. Gould and H. W. Abbett; 1877-84, George T. Gould; 1884-86, Rev. Morris Evans, D. D.; 1886-97, Rev. C. Pope, D. D.; 1897, Rev. C. C. Fisher.

The buildings of the Millersburg Female Col-

lege were burned during the Christmas holidays of 1878, but with the insurance and the liberality of the citizens, the present large and commodious structure was promptly erected on the site of the one destroyed.

Amongst the eminent and successful teachers connected with the Millersburg Female College, mention should be made of Mrs. S. E. Trueheart, who was a member of the Faculty, and co-principal with Dr. C. Pope from 1883 to 1893. Previous to her connection with the Millersburg Female College she had for twelve years been principal of the Stanford Female College, undenominational, which she conducted with marked ability and success. Her distinguished career as an educator of young women and girls is well known in the South.

The Millersburg Female College is located in a beautiful town, blessed with a refined and cultured community, and it has from time to time sent forth toilers into other institutions of learning, and other young women fitted to adorn responsible positions in life.

JAMES WILLIAM DODD, LL. D.,

GRADUATED at Transylvania University, at the age of seventeen years. He first taught a country school near Lexington, Ky., for one year. Then he took charge of the "Old Academy," at Nicholasville, for two years. He next, in 1856, established a school for boys in Shelbyville, Ky., to pre-

pare them for college and university, limiting the number of pupils to thirty. He had competition, but by tact and discipline he had fine success. His pupils had no trouble in entering Princeton and Harvard. He taught this school for sixteen years. In 1872 he took charge of the Eclectic School, for girls and boys, in Frankfort, Ky. In 1879 he accepted the chair of Latin in Vanderbilt University, and threw his whole soul into the work. Here he remained seven years, until his death, in August, 1886. His career as an instructor was eminently successful. He was greatly gifted in training boys into scholarly men. His motto in the school-room was three S's: Self-reverence, Self-knowledge, Self-control.

REV. THOMAS J. DODD, D. D.,

WAS an eminent educator within the bounds of the Kentucky Annual Conference, and elsewhere. Dr. Dodd was a graduate of Transylvania University, of Lexington, Kentucky, in 1857, and received his degree of D. D. from Center College, Danville, Kentucky.

Nature and culture made Dr. Dodd an educator. He taught first a private school in Nicholasville, then in Shelbyville, Lexington, and Winchester, successively. He succeeded Professor A. G. Murphy as principal of the Male Academy in Millersburg, remaining from 1862 to 1865. He then taught a private school in Paris for six years. He

became president of the Kentucky Wesleyan College in Millersburg in 1875, and in 1876 was elected professor of Hebrew in Vanderbilt University, where he remained nine years. He then taught a select classical school, first in Cincinnati, Ohio, then in Newport, Kentucky, from 1887 until 1898, when his illustrious career closed in death. Many of his pupils are filling honorable positions in the learned professions, and in the active arena of business life.

#### KENTUCKY WESLEYAN COLLEGE.

ON the 30th of September, 1858, the first Board of Officers of the Kentucky Wesleyan College was organized, consisting of Revs. W. C. Dandy, Daniel Stevenson, John H. Linn, J. W. Cunningham; and David Thornton, W. C. Winlock, Hiram Shaw, and Moreau Brown, *laymen*. W. C. Dandy was appointed chairman, and Daniel Stevenson secretary. The first meeting of the Board was held in Lexington, Kentucky.

At the transfer of the assets of the Collegiate Institute to the Kentucky Conference in 1858, that body decided to put an agent into the field to raise the pledged endowment of one hundred thousand dollars for the Kentucky Wesleyan College. The citizens of Millersburg and Bourbon County pledged themselves, by their representatives, to furnish the grounds and the building for the college, which they did. The agents who were ap-

pointed secured, principally by scholarships, about eighty thousand dollars, much of which was subsequently lost by unprofitable investments.

From 1858 to 1879, the agents who secured the above amount were Revs. Samuel L. Robertson, Drummond Welburn, William C. Dandy, Daniel Stevenson, Charles W. Miller, William F. Taylor, H. R. Coleman, R. L. Cooper, and Mr. George W. Bryan.

In February, 1859, Professor A. G. Murphey, A. M., a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University, and who had been associated with Rev. George S. Savage in the Millersburg Male and Female Collegiate Institute, opened the male school in the Town Hall, until the summer vacation, and removed to the new college building in September. The opening was propitious. In 1862, Professor Murphey, on account of declining health, retired, and was succeeded by Rev. T. J. Dodd, assisted by his brother, Virginius Dodd. In 1865 they retired, and Rev. Samuel L. Robertson and Rev. Henry W. Abbett took charge of the school.

The college proper was opened in the fall of 1866, with presidents and professors to the present time, as kindly furnished by Professor D. W. Batson:

#### PRESIDENTS OF KENTUCKY WESLEYAN COLLEGE.

Rev. Charles Taylor, A. M., M. D., D. D., 1866-1870; Rev. B. Arbogast, A. M., 1870-1873; John



Darby, Ph. D., 1873-1875; Rev. T. J. Dodd, D. D., 1875-1876; Rev. Wm. H. Anderson, M. D., D. D., 1876-1879; D. W. Batson, A. M., 1879-1883; Rev. Alexander Redd, A. M., 1883-1884; D. W. Batson, A. M., 1884-1893; Rev. E. H. Pearce, A. M., D. D., 1895.

#### PROFESSORS.

Rev. Charles Taylor, M. D., D. D., Mental and Moral Science, 1866-1870. A. G. Murphey, A. M., Logic and English Literature, 1866-1867; Natural Sciences, 1867-1870; Latin and Greek, 1870-1871; Greek, 1871-1875; Greek and English, 1880-1881. Rev. H. W. Abbett, A. M., Latin and Greek, 1866-1870. Charles H. Theiss, A. M., Mathematics and Natural Sciences, 1866-1867; Mathematics, 1867-1874. Rev. Samuel L. Robertson, Hebrew and Biblical Literature, 1866-1867; Mental Philosophy and Logic, 1877-1878. Rev. B. Arbogast, A. M., Mental and Moral Philosophy, 1870-1873. John Darby, Ph. D., Natural Sciences, 1870-1875. John W. Brown, A. M., Latin and French, 1870-1871. T. W. Jordan, A. M., Latin, 1871-1879. D. W. Batson, A. M., Mathematics, 1874-1883; Natural Sciences, 1884. Rev. T. J. Dodd, D. D., Mental Science and Greek, 1875-1876. Rev. William H. Anderson, M. D., D. D., Mental Science and Greek, 1876-1879. O. P. Moore, French and German, 1878-1880. Rev. Alexander Redd, A. M., Latin and Greek, 1879-1880; Latin and Mental Science, 1880-1884.

Rev. Joe H. Young, Ph. D., English and Mental Science, 1879-1880. H. K. Taylor, A. M., Natural Sciences, 1879-1881. W. H. Garnett, Ph. D., English and French, 1881-1883; Mathematics and French, 1883. B. F. Spencer, A. M., Greek, 1881-1882; Greek and German, 1882. R. O. Hughes, B. S., Natural Science, 1881-1882. K. J. Morris, A. M., English, 1883-1884. C. Zdonowics, A. M., Chemistry and Physics, 1883-1884. C. W. Wood, A. M., English and Latin, 1884-1887. Rev. Morris Evans, D. D., Mental Science, 1884-1885. J. C. C. Mayo, Assistant in Mathematics, 1886-1887. W. Y. Demaree, B. S., English and Latin, 1887-1890. C. F. Spencer, A. B., Assistant in Mathematics and Latin, 1888-1890. Marvin West, A. M., English and Latin, 1890-1891; Latin and History, 1891-1897. W. T. Martin, A. M., English, 1891-1894. Rev. T. W. Watts, Bible Study and Elocution, 1892-1893. Ed. McKenzie, A. M., Preparatory Department, 1894-1895. Rev. James L. Clark, A. B., Preparatory Department, 1895-1896. W. R. Buckner, B. S., Assistant Professor in Mathematics and Latin, 1896. J. E. Wamsley, A. M., Latin and History, 1897. Rev. George S. Savage, M. D., Senior Bible Study, 1898.

In 1887, at the session of the Kentucky Annual Conference in Covington, Bishop Granberry presiding, it was voted to remove the Kentucky Wesleyan College from Millersburg to Winches-

X *Removed 1890*

ter, Clark County, Kentucky. X The citizens of Millersburg were strongly opposed to the removal, and contested it by litigation; but the Bourbon Circuit Court, the Kentucky Court of Appeals, and the United States Supreme Court, all successively decided adversely to their suit, and the removal of the college to Winchester was sustained. A family by the name of Stewart, owning a tract of land in the western part of Winchester, donated eight acres as a campus for the college. The ground is elevated and beautiful, being well set in blue grass and planted with shade-trees. In November, 1895, under the auspices of President Pearce, "State Arbor-day" was observed, and nearly one hundred forest-trees of standard varieties were planted with suitable ceremonies, some of them receiving the names of noted educators and friends of the college. Class trees were donated by students of classes of that year. The occasion was of historic interest, in the fact that seven English elms were planted at the east angle of the main college building, as memorial trees for the founders of Bethel Academy, the first Methodist school in Kentucky. The names of the persons thus honored being Bishop Asbury, Poythress, Lewis, Hite, Nelson, Green, and Masterson. The tree named for Bishop Asbury stands nearest the college building, and proceeding from right to left, in order of names given, this group of trees forms a triangle.

The college building is substantial, constructed of brick and stone, three stories in height, with a spacious basement, and surmounted by a tower. It is handsomely finished, with chapel, society-rooms, recitation-rooms, library containing two thousand volumes, among which are personal libraries devised to the college by Bishop H. H. Kavanaugh and Rev. T. N. Ralston, D. D.; also laboratories supplied with extensive chemical and philosophical apparatus, and museum of geological and other specimens of instructive interest. It has also a well-arranged and well-furnished gymnasium of modern structure, with bath-rooms with cold and hot water, etc. The gymnasium is due to the liberality, principally, of Mr. Thomas L. Clark, of Williamstown, Ky., and others.

The friends of the college are under obligations to Rev. William F. Taylor, president of the Board of Education, for untiring supervision in the planning and erection of the building. In 1895, by the liberality of President Pearce, the Board of Education, and others, the interior of the building was elegantly and beautifully finished and furnished.

The Kentucky Wesleyan College has a president and Faculty of scholarly, ambitious, energetic young men, who have abundantly proven themselves superior educators. A number of their graduates have taken positions in some of the best universities of the country, and some are cultivating foreign fields.

The matriculations, since the removal of the college to Winchester, have ranged from one hundred and nineteen to one hundred and forty-eight.

President Pearce is hopeful for the future, and is untiring in labors, especially in traveling and soliciting funds and students for the college, and keeping it prominently before the public.

Dr. Pearce furnishes the following statement: "From 1895 to 1899 there has been secured to Kentucky Wesleyan College and its adjunct work from all sources, twenty-two thousand five hundred dollars."

History furnishes but few instances of such unselfish and heroic devotion as has been manifested by the professors who have been longest connected with Kentucky Wesleyan College. Some of them have declined more lucrative and promising positions in other institutions, and have chosen rather to share the fortunes and toil for the welfare of their beloved Alma Mater with unswerving and commendable devotion.

In 1892 young women were admitted to the privileges of the college, and they have proven worthy of the opportunities thus afforded, to add honor to the institution as students and graduates.

#### AUGUSTA COLLEGE INSTITUTE.

ON the 10th of June, 1879, Rev. Daniel Stevenson, D. D., a graduate of Transylvania University, and noted author and divine, opened a school for

both sexes in the Augusta College building in Augusta, Kentucky, under the above title; and at the next meeting of the Kentucky Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the institution was placed under the patronage and supervision of that body. Dr. Stevenson continued in charge of this school until his removal, in 1887, to

#### UNION COLLEGE, BARBOURVILLE, KY.

THIS institution was chartered by the Legislature of Kentucky in 1879; the college building was erected and dedicated in 1880, and in 1887 the property was sold to Rev. Daniel Stevenson, and remained under his administration until his death in January, 1897. He improved the buildings, and developed the institution from a co-educational school into a regular college for both sexes. The college building is a two-and-a-half-story brick edifice, containing ten rooms, on a campus of three acres. The chief contributor towards the purchase of this property and the sustaining of the college has been Mrs. Fanny Speed, of Louisville, Kentucky. The library is called the Speed-Stevenson Library, in honor of Mrs. Fanny Speed and Mrs. Daniel Stevenson. Mrs. Speed has generously instituted an endowment of \$8,000 for the Board of Education of the Kentucky Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Since the death of Dr. Stevenson, the college has been under the administration of Rev. J. P. Faulk-

ner, A. M., with a continued and well-sustained corps of teachers.

#### ASBURY COLLEGE.

ASBURY COLLEGE, located at Wilmore, Jessamine County, Kentucky, was founded by Rev. J. W. Hughes, of the Kentucky Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, September 2, 1890. It started in four rooms, with two teachers, and eleven pupils. The year closing June, 1899, shows 218 pupils enrolled. There are now six buildings, with the president's residence, and a large chapel, and campus of six acres. The college has a capacity for teaching three hundred students, and boarding accommodations for one hundred. It has sent out over sixty ministers of the gospel, and has had students from twenty States, from Canada, England, Japan, and Persia. The success of the enterprise is mainly due to the energy and ability of its founder, Rev. J. W. Hughes. The location is beautiful and healthy.

#### SUE BENNETT MEMORIAL SCHOOL

WAS conceived in the loving heart and projected by her whose name it bears, and is located in London, Laurel County, Kentucky, in the mountains. It was established by the Woman's Home Missionary Society of the Kentucky Conference, and transferred to the General Board of Woman's Home Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

The school was opened in the fall of 1897, for men, women, boys, and girls; Professor J. C. Lewis, principal. The cottage system has been adopted, and four Conference societies—those of Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, and Little Rock—have erected frame cottages costing about \$300 each. The Board, at this writing, is erecting a dormitory, to be called the Lucinda B. Helm Dormitory, where board can be had at \$1.25 or \$1.50 per week, and where cooking, sewing, and general housework will be taught. Carpenter work is being taught. The year just closed had an enrollment of more than two hundred students. The main building, a large, commodious brick structure, will accommodate three hundred pupils. Professor Lewis is admirably adapted to the position he occupies, and is assisted by a well-qualified and enthusiastic corps of teachers. The progress of this institution will be intensely interesting to its friends. The success so far has been phenomenal.

#### KENTUCKY WESLEYAN ACADEMY, CAMPTON, KY.

CAMPTON is the county-seat of Wolfe County, Kentucky, a healthily-located village, with about four hundred inhabitants, in the eastern mountainous portion of the State, where education is greatly needed. The building is a handsome two-story brick, attractively located, and well furnished with modern school furniture. Professor E. E. Bishop has had charge for three years, assisted by Clarence



M. Nugent, a graduate of Kentucky Wesleyan College. Good work has been done. The Bible and Christianity have been made prominent in teaching, and have made their impress upon the minds of the students and the community.

This promising school owes its successful inauguration very largely to the efforts of Rev. J. L. West, of the Kentucky Conference.

#### KENTUCKY WESLEYAN ACADEMY, BURNSIDE, KY.

ONE of the academies of Kentucky Wesleyan College is located at Burnside, Kentucky, one of the most picturesque and healthful locations in the State, on the Cincinnati Southern Railroad, at the crossing of that unique water-course, the Cumberland River. The academy has just closed its third scholastic year,—two years under the careful labors of Rev. James L. Clark, a graduate of Kentucky Wesleyan College, and the last year under the conduct of Professor James C. Dolley, A. M., a graduate of Randolph Macon College, Virginia. The academy is taught in the commodious building erected some years ago, at an expense of about \$20,000, for a summer hotel, by Colonel C. W. Cole, of Cincinnati, who has generously granted the use of the building for five years, rent free, for the school.

The citizens of the manufacturing town of Burnside have manifested a liberal interest in the

support of the academy. Burnside has recently, by a large majority, re-voted local option.

These two institutions were organized by the indefatigable energy and perseverance of Rev. E. H. Pearce, D.D., president of the Kentucky Wesleyan College.

#### BOURBON FEMALE COLLEGE.

PROFESSOR J. A. BROWN, whose name is recorded in connection with the Millersburg Female College, went from that institution with his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth S. Brown, an alumnus of Millersburg Female College, to Paris, Ky., in 1871, and organized the Bourbon Female College, which they conducted with marked success for seven years. In 1878 they opened the

#### HARRISON FEMALE COLLEGE,

in Cynthiana, where they also remained seven years, when they removed to Wheeling, W. Va., and spent two years in charge of the Wheeling Female College. In 1887 they returned to Cynthiana, Ky., and resumed the charge of the Harrison Female College, where they continued for ten years, thus compassing twenty-six years of active successful work in the department of Methodist education for girls in Kentucky.

#### FEMALE HIGH SCHOOL, MT. STERLING, KY.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM H. SAVAGE, who has been previously mentioned as professor and presi-

dent of the Millersburg Female College, opened afterwards the Female High School in Mount Sterling, Ky. This school he conducted with progressive success until 1880, when he removed to Texas, where he continued his chosen calling as instructor of youth.

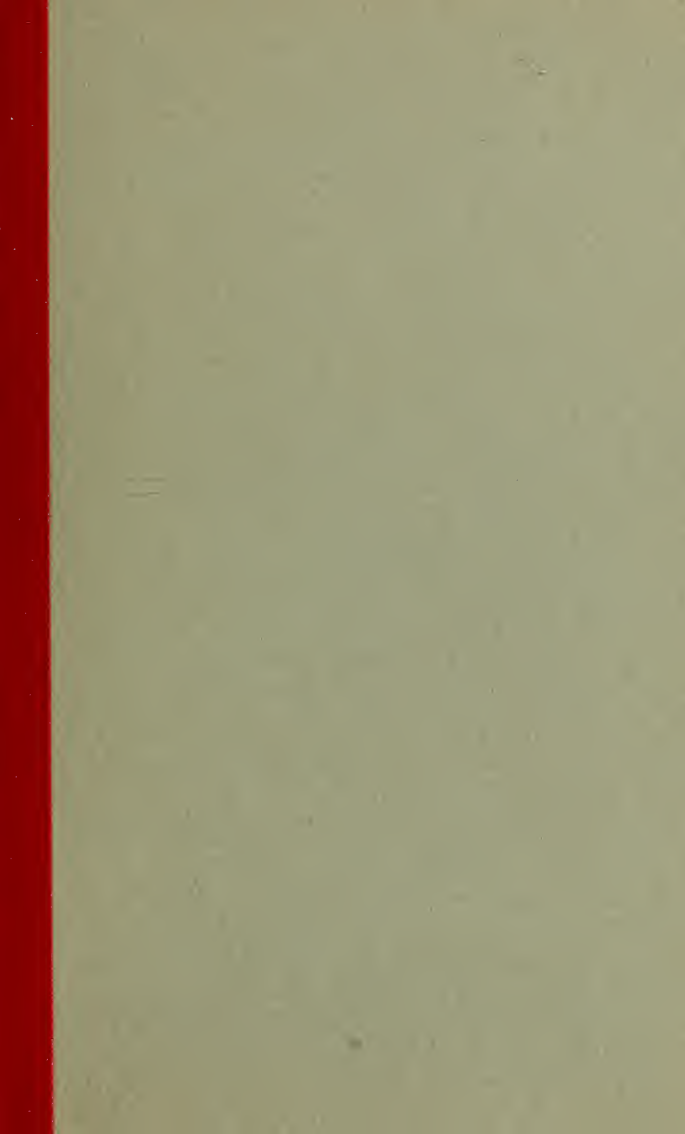
#### CONCLUSION.

THE history of collegiate education under the auspices of the Methodist Church in Kentucky is an instructive history. Portions of it have been brilliant, and a noble record has been made. There have also been mistakes and failures. That the Methodist people in Kentucky should have a first-class college in every regard, and well endowed, is not a debatable question. It is an absolute necessity. It will require money. Our people have the money. Let the past go. Leave it behind. We must go forward. The time is auspicious. The Methodist Church is now stirred on this subject as never before. Delay will be perilous. If we embrace and utilize the opportunity, well. We may retrieve the past, command respect, take position, and fully redeem ourselves. Prompt action and liberal giving, with God's blessing, will accomplish the important work.

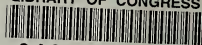








LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 019 598 249 1